

REMARKS

Applicant filed Petition to Make Special on April 25, 2003. The petition was granted on November 11, 2003. Applicant has made a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance. The prompt examination is respectfully requested in accordance with the procedure for this special status.

This amendment is in response to the non-final Office action (Paper No. 042904) mailed 4 May 2004. Claims 1-9, 15, 16, 21-39 and 41-56 are pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 2, 7 and 56 by this amendment and cancelled claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 21-39 and 41-55 without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter.

No new matter has been added.

In the Office action (Paper No. 042904), the Examiner stated that claims 2, 7 and 56 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claims 2, 7 and 56 have been amended in independent form as suggested by the Examiner.

Therefore, claim 2, 7, and 56 are patentable.

No fee is incurred by this amendment. Should the other fees be incurred, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of such fees.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance, and early issuance thereof is solicited. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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